

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An article of manufacture such as a soft cover portfolio, desk folder, or similar article, includes a graphic image provided thereon by transferring an image from a source to a processor which is operable to control a printer to print multiple images on a sheet of polyvinyl chloride or the like. The printed images may be protected by laminating a transparent vinyl sheet over the larger image sheet and the images are then precut to final size.

The final individual image sheets are applied directly to the article of manufacture or to a member of flexible material to be used in forming an article of manufacture by, preferably, RF sealing the image sheet to the member which will form a part of the article. The precisely cut image sheet may be supported on a debossing die or placed on the member which will form the article, then struck by the debossing die. Accurate positioning of the image sheet on the member may be carried out by use of a guide device, focused light beams or by a light debossing operation to form an indentation in the member prior to locating the image sheet on the member. A virtually infinite range of graphic images may be rapidly and permanently placed on members which are then used to form articles of manufacture, such as portfolios, desk folders, luggage tags, memo pads and similar articles in relatively large quantities.

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